

House Republican Press Release

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Adinolfi Senior Tax Freeze Bill Passes House



*Measure Allows Towns to Institute Freeze
on Taxes for Elderly*

HARTFORD – Representative Al Adinolfi (R-Cheshire) successfully shepherded legislation through the state House of Representatives last night that allows municipalities to freeze the property taxes on homes owned by certain elderly people.

Under provisions of the bill, a homeowner or their spouse must be age 70 or older and have lived in the state at least one year to qualify. The freeze continues for a surviving spouse who is at least age 62 when the homeowner dies. Homeowners must meet the same income limits as apply to the existing state-reimbursed “circuit breaker” program, which currently gives qualified homeowners age 65 or over a tax credit against the property taxes on their homes.

Income limits are currently set at \$27,700 annually for individuals and \$33,900 for married couples, adjusted annually for inflation. Under the bill, people whose taxes are frozen can still qualify for other property tax relief programs. The town is allowed to recapture the tax deferrals from the estate or the sale of the home.

“This measure will enable municipalities to provide a meaningful tax freeze on property taxes for eligible seniors,” said Representative Adinolfi. “For many seniors on a fixed income, it is difficult to keep up with the escalating cost of living and increasing property taxes. Towns have the option to keep seniors’ taxes level under this bill.”

The bill, *HB 5093, An Act Concerning Property Tax Relief for Certain Elderly Homeowners* now heads to the Senate for action there.